

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

/164 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DWBORN:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA:LBLAINGEN

AID/ASIA/SA:AFORD

SCI/SA:ARICHMOND (INFO)

INT/BUMINES:LNAHAI

COM/BIC:DHENDERSON

FEO/IEA:JSTORY

NEA/INS:DKUX

EB/ORF/FSE:MCREEKMORE (INFO)

----- 050733

P 162317Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ENRG, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-US ENERGY COOPERATION: POSSIBLE SPECIFIC
NEXT STEPS

REF: STATE 90676

1. FOLLOWING UP ON THE BAROOAH VISIT, A GROUP OF USG
AGENCY REPS MET MAY 8 TO DISCUSS WAYS TO PROCEED INFOR-
MALLY TO RESPOND TO INDIAN INTEREST IN COOPERATING TO
MEET ENERGY CRISIS. GROUP CONCLUDED THAT THERE WERE
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THINGS USG AGENCIES COULD DO, DIRECTLY WITH GOI

OFFICIALS, AND ALSO BY FACILITATING CONTACT WITH PRIVATE US FIRMS. GENERAL CONCLUSION WAS THAT FOR PRESENT WE SHOULD PROCEED ON AD HOC BASIS, RESPONDING TO SPECIFIC INDIAN REQUESTS BUT DEFERRING CONSIDERATION OF SETTING UP POSSIBLE BILATERAL WORKING GROUP.

2. ON MAY 13, NEA OFFICERS MET WITH INDIAN ECON MINISTER RAMAKRISHNA TO DISCUSS HOW BEST TO PROCEED. RAMAKRISHNA WELCOMED USG INTEREST IN COOPERATING AND AGREED THAT SPECIFIC INDIAN REQUESTS ON ENERGY CRISIS MATTERS MIGHT BEST BE CHANNELLED THROUGH NEA/INS TO APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS. HE SAID AT EMBASSY'S REQUEST, GOI OFFICIALS WERE SEEKING PULL TOGETHER INDIAN PRIORITIES AND REQUIREMENTS AS THEY MIGHT RELATE TO U.S. HE THEN IDENTIFIED TWO SPECIFIC UPCOMING INDIAN REQUESTS.

3. FIRST, RAMAKRISHNA SAID, THE APRIL 29,30 SYMPOSIUM IN NEW DELHI HAD LED TO INDIAN CONSIDERATION OF A PILOT PROJECT, EITHER AT A PLANT TO BE BUILT IN INDIA OR IN US LABORATORIES, TO TEST INDIAN COAL TO DETERMINE THE OPTIMUM GASIFICATION PROCESS TO MANUFACTURE FERTILIZER FEEDSTOCK. RAMAKRISHNA MENTIONED THAT THE GOI WAS THINKING OF CONTRACTING WITH THE INSTITUTE OF GAS TECHNOLOGY IN CHICAGO FOR ASSISTANCE IN SUCH A PILOT PROJECT, POSSIBLY USING AN AID TA GRANT, IF AND WHEN SUCH FUNDS BECAME AVAILABLE. HE THOUGHT GOI WOULD SHORTLY BE APPROACHING EMBASSY DELHI ABOUT THIS.

4. SECOND, AN INDIAN SCIENTIFIC TEAM WAS EXPECTED TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE FOURTEENTH SYMPOSIUM ON MHD (MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS-HIGH TEMPERATURE COMBUSTION OF COAL) IN JUNE. INDIAN EMBASSY HAD RECOMMENDED TEAM VISIT WASHINGTON AFTER SYMPOSIUM FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH USG COUNTERPARTS. RAMAKRISHNA EXPECTED GOI WOULD BE APPROACHING AMEMBASSY DELHI ON THIS SHORTLY.

5. WE AGREED WITH RAMAKRISHNA THAT NEXT CONCRETE STEP WOULD BE SCIENTIFIC TEAM VISIT AND SAID WE WOULD PUT TEAM MEMBERS IN TOUCH WITH APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS WHEN TEAM'S SCHEDULE AND INTERESTS KNOWN.

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6. WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS/VIEWS ON ABOVE, TOGETHER WITH ANY INFORMATION YOU RECEIVE ON PROPOSED SCIENTIFIC TEAM VISIT. RUSH

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